

CIVILIZATION IS A CONTINUOUS STRUGGLE

Edwin Eugene Ott 20200727

It was the Fall of 1960. Richard Nixon was running in the Presidential election as the Republican candidate, and John Kennedy was running as the Democratic candidate. My father, Furman Edward Ott, Sr. was serving as the Chairman of the Laurens County Republican Party. I was fifteen years old.

The Democratic Party dominated South Carolina politics, except during the Reconstruction Era, from 1828 until the election of James E. Edwards as Governor in 1974. My father was a small independent businessman. He felt the Democrats were not supporting business owners properly and worked with others in Laurens County to establish the Republican Party in the State.

As Chairman of the Republican Party in Laurens County, my father received flyers and other campaign materials for the election which he gathered in his business office. There were the expected campaign buttons, bumper stickers, and flyers. One day when I visited his office, I saw many boxes filled with materials that appeared to be campaign materials from the Democratic Party. All these materials prominently featured images of John Kennedy with African Americans and specifically addressed issues of concern to them. I have no reason to assume that these materials were not legitimate Democratic Party materials. How the Republican Party obtained them would be speculation. However, one item which was as large as a four-page newspaper, had printed on its front the following: "READ KENNEDY'S OFFICIAL HANDOUT FOR THE NORTHERN VOTER! DO YOU BUY IT? Complimentary Distribution by Committee to Save States' Right." South Carolina and most of the other Southern states were segregated then. The use of these materials by the Republicans seemed racist to me at the time, and I think would be judged by most persons today as racist.

These materials remained in my father's office for at least a few weeks. I do not know if he allowed them to be distributed. I prefer to think that he did not. I consider the day that I saw these materials to be my awakening to the dirty tricks that are now thoroughly and blatantly engrained in politics. Kennedy won the election vote in Laurens County with 4,550 votes to Nixon's 3,299 votes.

Following is a copy of the newspaper insert mentioned above, one of the flyers, and an advertisement that was printed in The Clinton Chronicle at that time. My mother saved these items for history.

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**READ KENNEDY'S OFFICIAL HANDOUT FOR
THE NORTHERN VOTER! DO YOU BUY IT?**
Complimentary Distribution by Committee to Save States' Rights.
Like K...

"The challenging '60s demand that the President place himself in the very thick of the fight, that he care passionately about the fate of the people he leads."

John F. Kennedy



KENNEDY
for **PRESIDENT**

Figure 1 Republican Newspaper Insert, front page.

Like Roosevelt . . . KENNEDY CARES

Senator John F. Kennedy is a leader in the tradition of Franklin D. Roosevelt. That's why Mrs. Eleanor Roosevelt recently said of Senator Kennedy:

"Here is a man who wants to leave a record of not only helping his countrymen but of having helped humanity as a whole. . . ."



Franklin D. Roosevelt

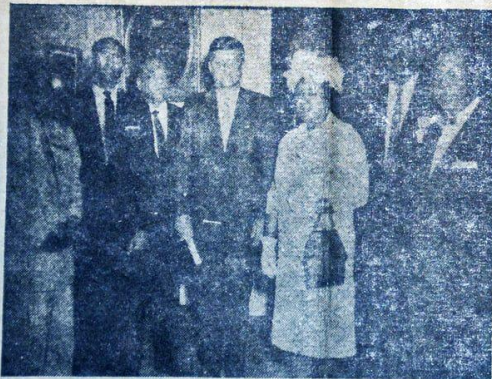
And Eleanor Roosevelt also said, "Senator Kennedy will fight to get prompt action on civil rights."

Mrs. Roosevelt knows that John F. Kennedy cares about people. Like FDR, he is concerned with human problems. He believes in the Rights of Man and he will act to advance the Rights of Man. He wants all Americans to have an equal chance in life for a good education, a good job, a decent home, a meaningful future.

Franklin D. Roosevelt, great Democratic President, said, "Our fight—yours and mine—is to keep democracy safe by keeping it moving forward."

After eight years of aloof, do-little Republicanism in the White House, it is time again to move democracy forward—to a new day for citizens at home and our friends overseas in the rising nations of Africa and Asia.

It is time again for great Democratic leadership in the tradition of Roosevelt. It is time to elect JOHN F. KENNEDY President of the United States. He will fight for your rights. He will provide great leadership for America. Give him your help. Vote for JOHN F. KENNEDY.



SENATOR KENNEDY and LAWYERS representing the National Bar Association. Left to right, Leroy G. Charles, Chicago Regional Director; Elmer C. Jackson, Kansas City, Mo., president of the NBA; Edward B. Toles, Chicago, chairman of the Judiciary Committee; Senator Kennedy; Theodore W. Coggs, Milwaukee; 2d vice president; Mrs. Rosa Charles, Chicago, president of the Women's Auxiliary, NBA; William S. Thompson, Washington, D. C., executive board member, and Roy C. Garvin, Washington, D. C.



P. I. PRATTIS, right, Editor of The Pittsburgh Courier, questions Senator Kennedy, who then was a presidential hopeful, to discover the exact role he is playing as the Democratic candidate for President. Congressman William L. Dawson of Illinois, center, voices his approval of the Senator's forthright answers.



SENATOR KENNEDY and VEL PHILLIPS, Democratic National Committeewoman, Wisconsin, who stated: "Senator Kennedy has the best record, the best understanding of human problems and the best chance to win the election. He is our best and only chance to elect a liberal President."



SENATOR KENNEDY, "Champion of Human Rights," talks politics with his friend, Nat "King" Cole, "Champion of Entertainers."

Figure 2 Republican Newspaper Insert- second page.



SENATOR KENNEDY TALKING WITH STUDENTS at Bluefield State Teachers College, Bluefield, W. Va., during his whitewind primary swing through West Virginia. This meeting was sponsored by the West Virginia for Kennedy Committee.



FRANK D. REEVES, left, assistant to Senator Kennedy, and David Boston, right, of Detroit, Mich., present the Senator with a photo taken at the National Convention of the Veterans of Foreign Wars held in Detroit, Mich. Senator Kennedy was one of the principal speakers.

Champion of Human Rights

"I believe in the right of every American to stand up for his rights, and when necessary, to sit down for them."

—John F. Kennedy



SENATOR KENNEDY, who is Chairman of the Africa Subcommittee of the Senate Foreign Relations Committee, getting a first-hand report of developments in Africa from the Honorable K. A. Gbedemah, right, Minister of Finance, Ghana, and His Excellency E. Aye-Kumi, center, Ambassador Extraordinary and Plenipotentiary of Ghana.



SENATOR KENNEDY meets Massachusetts State Representative Oswald S. Jordan, right, of Boston. Another Bostonian, Attorney Herbert E. Tucker, left, one of the Senator's aides who is carrying the Democratic candidate's campaign fight to all sections, makes the introduction.



SENATOR AND MRS. KENNEDY attend a reception and tea in their honor at the Bellevue-Stratford Hotel in Philadelphia. This reception was sponsored by Reverend John D. Bright, now Bishop Bright, who is shaking hands with the Senator. Dr. William Gray, extreme left, and other prominent Philadelphians, pledge their support.

Figure 3 Republican Newspaper Insert, third page.

The Democratic Party Pledges

THE RIGHTS OF MAN

“We Seek
to Secure
These Rights”

—John F. Kennedy

1. JOBS

The right of every American to work as he wants to work.

2. EDUCATION

The right of every American to be educated.

3. SECURITY

The right of every American to receive just compensation for his labor, his crops, his goods.

4. HOUSING

The right of every American to live in a decent home in a neighborhood of his choice.

5. VOTING

The right of every American to have equal access to the voting booth.

6. CITIZENSHIP

The right of every American to think, to speak, to read, to worship as he pleases.



KENNEDY AT RIGHTS RALLY—Senator John F. Kennedy as he addressed NAACP sponsored civil rights rally at Shrine Auditorium in Los Angeles, just four days before he secured Democratic nomination. All other candidates spoke or were represented. A walloping crowd of 7,000 attended the three and a half hour NAACP rally.

Vote for the Men Who Care...

KENNEDY for PRESIDENT
JOHNSON for VICE PRESIDENT

Sponsored by the Democratic National Committee, Washington, D. C.

Figure 4 Republican Newspaper Insert, back page.

**"We seek to
secure these rights"**

1. The right of every American to work as he wants to work.
2. The right of every American to be educated.
3. The right of every American to receive just compensation for his labor, his crops, his goods.
4. The right of every American to live in a decent home in a neighborhood of his choice.
5. The right of every American to obtain security in sickness as well as health.
6. The right of every American to think, to vote, to speak, to read, to worship as he pleases.
7. The right of all people to be free from the terrors of war.

... Senator Kennedy
NAACP Rally, Los Angeles

Human rights
Kennedy cares
Kennedy acts



**A time for moral
LEADERSHIP**



WINNING TEAM



Senator Lyndon B. Johnson of Texas is the Democratic candidate for Vice President. As Senate Minority Leader he led the fight for the enactment of the Civil Rights Bills of 1957 and 1960. Senator Johnson has pledged to "campaign from one coast to the other on the platform of the Democratic party."

VOTE DEMOCRATIC

KENNEDY
FOR PRESIDENT
JOHNSON
FOR VICE PRESIDENT

CITIZENS FOR KENNEDY AND JOHNSON
361 CONSTITUTION AVENUE, N. W., WASHINGTON, D. C.

KENNEDY
for PRESIDENT

Figure 5 Republican Flyer, side one.

"The challenging sixties demand that the President place himself in the very thick of the fight, that he care passionately about the fate of the people he leads"

STRONGEST PLATFORM

Senator John F. Kennedy and Congressman Chester Bowles, Chairman of the Platform Committee at the Democratic National Convention, worked together under Kennedy's leadership to produce the strongest civil rights plank in history.



RIGHTS OF MAN

The civil rights plank advocates:

1. A national FEPC.
2. Directing the Attorney General to bring court actions to enforce civil rights.
3. An end to discrimination in all Federal housing programs.
4. Desegregation plans in all school districts by 1963.
5. An end to literacy tests and poll taxes.
6. A change of Senate rules to end filibustering.



Senator Kennedy confers with African leader Tom Mboya

PRESIDENTIAL LEADERSHIP

Senator Kennedy believes that the goals of the Democratic civil rights plank can only be achieved by strong moral leadership from the White House. "That leadership must be exercised until every American, of every color and faith, has achieved equal access to the voting booth, to the schoolroom, to jobs, to housing and to lunch counters."

SIT-IN DEMONSTRATORS

Senator Kennedy, for 14 years a fighter for civil rights, was one of the first national leaders to support peaceful sit-in demonstrations. "It is in the American tradition to stand up for one's rights — even if the new way to stand up for one's rights is to sit down."

AFRICAN AFFAIRS

Senator Kennedy is Chairman of the Senate Foreign Relations Subcommittee on Africa. He has focused Senate — and national — attention on the problems of Africa and other underdeveloped parts of the world. "The American dream of 1776 is now the African dream — together, Africa and America must dedicate themselves to fulfilling that dream for all mankind."

Figure 6 Republican Flyer, side two.

Should the South Lose its Head Over Kennedy?

He Supports the Ultra Liberal Democratic Platform!

• RIGHT TO WORK

The Democratic platform calls for all-out repeal of the national law which authorizes states to set their own policies on right to work laws through elections held within the states.

• DEFICIT SPENDING

The Democratic platform would cost taxpayers of the South and the nation \$18 billion more than the present budget the first year. Kennedy has promised tax increases to pay for it. More money for Federal programs means less money for individual pocketbooks.

• EDUCATION, HOUSING

The Democratic platform advocates federalized programs which would lead to control of education and housing fields with the Government setting the standards for local school districts and running rough-shod over local housing codes.

The Radical Liberal Party Endorses Kennedy...

Although once denying he was a liberal, and saying that they made him "uncomfortable" Kennedy accepted the Liberal Party endorsement in New York, Sept. 14, with these words: "Only liberalism can repair our national power, restore our national purpose... only liberalism can solve the bitter problems this nation faces." He hand-picked the ultra-liberal Chester Bowles to write the pie-in-the-sky Democratic platform which is a liberal manifesto.

THE SOUTH WILL LOSE—IF KENNEDY WINS

TAKE SOUTH CAROLINA OUT OF THE "BAG"

Vote For Nixon For President

PUT OUR GREAT STATE BACK ON THE MAP

(This Advertisement Paid For By Clintonians For Nixon and Lodge)

LYNDON'S TROJAN HORSE!



• STATES' RIGHTS

The Democratic platform emphasizes the word *federal* and its intent is seizure of control in such fields as schools, housing, medical care and nearly every field now controlled by individual or local choice.

How Long Would Southern Committee Chairmanships Last Under the Liberal Crowd?

John Kennedy has assembled some of the South's greatest enemies as his advisors and cohorts. If he's elected, Lyndon Johnson will be out of the Senate, a powerless figure. Walter Reuther, an avowed foe of southern industries, will call the shots. In Congress, liberals are waiting in the wings to oust Southern Committee Chairmen with the Kennedy clan's blessing. Proxmire said "I object to the (seniority) procedure because 10 of the 15 Committee chairmen will be from the South (Cong. Record, Feb. 2, 1960). The next day, Clark said "Seniority . . . is doing grave national damage to the Democratic Party." A Kennedy victory would mean open season on the South and its leaders in Congress.

Figure 7 Republican Advertisement printed in Clinton Chronicle